COCCUPENTO 10 MAR 2005

PATENT COOPERATION TREAT



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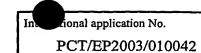
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT 47/003 wes	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP2003/010042 International Patent Classification (IPC) or n B01D 53/96	10 September 2003 (10.09.2003) 11 September 2002 (11.09.2002) ational classification and IPC
Applicant	ENVICA GMBH
and is transmitted to the applicant at 2. This REPORT consists of a total of This report is also accompan amended and are the basis fo 70.16 and Section 607 of the	ination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority coording to Article 36.
3. This report contains indications rela I Basis of the report	
III Non-establishment IV Lack of unity of inv	of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability rention under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; actions supporting such statement
VI Certain documents VII Certain defects in the	
Date of submission of the demand 22 March 2004 (22.03	Date of completion of this report 20 January 2005 (20.01.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

Cranslation





I. Basis	of the re	port	
1. With	regard to	the elements of the international application:*	
	the inte	mational application as originally filed	
X	the desc	cription:	
	pages	1-10	, as originally filed
1	pages		, filed with the demand
	pages	, filed with the letter of	,
	.1 1 .		
	the clair	ms:	
	pages		, as originally filed
]	pages	, as amended (together with	
1	pages		, filed with the demand
	pages	1-13 , filed with the letter of	14 April 2004 (14.04.2004)
	the drav	wings:	
i	pages		, as originally filed
1	pages		, filed with the demand
Ì	pages	, filed with the letter of	
	the seque	nce listing part of the description:	
	pages		as originally filed
ļ	pages		, filed with the demand
l	pages	, filed with the letter of	, med with the demand
2 3755	h d		•
the	internation	o the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Au nal application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.	uthority in the language in which
The	se elemen '	ts were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language	which is:
		guage of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 2)	3.1(b)).
		guage of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).	
	the lan or 55.3	guage of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary exa.).	mination (under Rule 55.2 and/
3. Wit	h regard iminary e	to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the internationa xamination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:	l application, the international
	contair	ned in the international application in written form.	
	filed to	gether with the international application in computer readable form.	
		ed subsequently to this Authority in written form.	
	furnish	ed subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.	
	The st	tatement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go ational application as filed has been furnished.	beyond the disclosure in the
	The sta	atement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to turnished.	he written sequence listing has
4.	The an	nendments have resulted in the cancellation of:	
		the description, pages	
		the claims, Nos.	
į		the drawings, sheets/fig	
5. 🗌	This rep	port has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**	hey have been considered to go
* Repl	acement :	sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to	under Article 14 are referred to
and	70.17).	or successive and are not annexed to this report since they do not co	ntain amendments (Rule 70.16
**Any	replacem	ent sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed t	o this report.
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Internationa	application No.
	03/10042

7.	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
. •	citations and explanations supporting such statement

Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO

Citations and explanations 2.

- Reference is made to the following document: 1.
 - EP-A-0 974 397 (MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND CO), D1: 26 January 2000 (2000-01-26)
- Document D1, which is considered to be the prior art 2.1 closest to the subject matter of claim 1, discloses a method for regenerating DeNOx catalysts with reduced activity resulting from an accumulation of phosphorus and phosphorus compounds. The catalysts are treated with a substantially aqueous solution of water-soluble alkalically reactive alkaline earth salts, ammonium hydroxide or alkalically reactive ammonium salts or water-soluble organic amines with a pK between around 2.5 and 5.5, and excess alkali is neutralised by subsequent treatment with an organic or inorganic acid.
 - The subject matter of claim 1 differs from the known 2.2 method in that the reaction solution is also treated with low-frequency vibrations or ultrasound.
 - The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT 2.3 Article 33(2)).

- 3.1 The problem addressed by the present application can therefore be seen as that of developing a method for removing phosphorus from DeNOx catalysts that offers reduced treatment time and increased effectiveness.
- 3.2 The solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) because there is nothing in D1 to suggest this solution to the problem with its distinguishing features, and because the solution according to claim 1 cannot be considered obvious.
- 4. Claims 2 to 13 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT requirements in respect of novelty and inventive step.